ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED 69kV TAP MARLBORO TRANSMISSION LINE, MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Prepared By:
Michael Trinkley, Ph.D., RPA

Prepared For:
Mr. Tommy L. Jackson
Central Electric Power Cooperative
PO Box 1455
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 295

Chicora Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 8664
Columbia, SC 29202-8664
803/787-6910
Email: chicora@bellsouth.net
www.chicora.org

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ABSTRACT

This study reports on an intensive archaeological and architectural survey of a 0.5 mile transmission line in south central Marlboro County, South Carolina. The work was conducted to assist Central Electric Power Cooperative comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The corridor is 2400 feet in length and 75 feet in width throughout. It will be situated immediately south of and adjacent to Stoneaway Road (S-455) and will connect a new substation at the eastern terminus to the existing Darlington to Bennetsville 69kV tap line to the west. The survey corridor is on gently sloping wooded terrain.

The proposed transmission line will require the clearing and grubbing of the corridor, followed by placement of the single poles, each about 80 feet in height. These activities have the potential to affect archaeological and historical sites and this survey was conducted to identify and assess archaeological and historical sites which may be in the project corridor. For this study an area of potential effect (APE) 0.25 mile around the substation was assumed.

Consultation with the S.C. Department of Archives and History revealed no previously identified archaeological or architectural sites in the project's APE. No National Register properties were present. An investigation of the archaeological site files at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology likewise identified no known archaeological sites within the APE, although the corridor did run through well drained soils which were previously cultivated.

The archaeological survey incorporated shovel testing at 100-foot intervals on the center line of the proposed corridor, which had been surveyed at the time of this investigation. All shovel test fill was screened through ¼-inch mesh and the shovel tests were backfilled at the completion of the study. A total of 22 shovel tests were excavated in the survey tract. No archaeological sites were identified as a result of these investigations.

The investigations also incorporated a windshield survey in an effort to identify any architectural sites within 0.25 mile of the corridor. None were found.

Finally, it is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the corridor during construction. Construction crews should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office or to Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No construction should take place in the vicinity of these late discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We appreciate the support and assistance of Central Electric Power Cooperative, as well as their commitment and concern for South Carolina's cultural resources. I also want to thank Mr. Robert Kidd and Mr. Tommy Jackson of Central Electric, for their continued support and confidence in Chicora Foundation.

I want to thank Mr. Tom Covington and Ms. Autumn Perkins of our staff who were responsible for assembling the background information for this project. Mr. Tom Covington also assisted in the field survey. I appreciate their dedication and thoroughness.

INTRODUCTION

This intensive archaeological survey of the proposed 69kV tap Marlboro line in Marlboro County was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Tommy L. Jackson of Central Electric Power Cooperative. The work was conducted to assist Central Electric Power Cooperative comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The project site consists of a corridor about 2400 feet in length, with a consistent width of 75 feet, situated in the south central portion of Marlboro County about 5 miles southwest of Bennettsville (Figure 1). It is designed to tie the existing Darlington to Bennettsville 69kV line with a new substation, currently under construction and runs on the south side of Stoneaway Road (S-455).

The corridor, which runs from the northwest to the southeast, is on a northwest ridge slope, with elevations ranging from 120 to 150 feet above mean sea level. The area, which had been previously cultivated, is now in planted pines about 5 to 10 years old. The substation at the southeast terminus had been cleared and was under construction at the time of this survey.

The corridor, as previously mentioned, is intended to be used to connect the existing 69kV line to the new substation. Landscape alteration, primarily clearing and perhaps grubbing, as well as subsequent placement of single poles, will cause some damage to the ground surface and any archaeological resources which may be present in the survey area. Future maintenance of the line and its easement may also have an impact on historic resources in the project area.

Although the project will not remove any structures, power line corridors may detract from the visual integrity of historic properties, creating what many consider discordant surroundings. Because this corridor is in an area used for mineral excavation (it is situated on Hanson Aggregates Becker, Inc.), there has already been considerable visual alterations in the immediate area. Nevertheless, given the small size of the poles to be used (80 feet or less) and their proximity to an existing powerline corridor, this impact is anticipated to be modest. Nevertheless, this architectural survey uses an area of potential effect (APE) about 0.25 mile around the proposed facility.

This study, however, does not consider any future secondary impact of the project, including increased or expanded commercial or industrial development of this currently rural section of the South Carolina sand hills.

We were requested by Mr. Robert Kidd of Central Electric Power Cooperative to conduct a cultural resources survey of the tract on March 6, 2000. These investigations incorporated a review of the site files at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. No archaeological sites were identified in the defined APE.

In addition, the master topographic maps at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History were checked to locate any NRHP buildings, districts, structures, sites, or objects, or structures surveys in the study area. There are no NRHP properties in the APE. Nor are there any previously surveyed architectural sites.

Archival and historical research was limited to a review of secondary sources available in the Chicora Foundation files, as well as research at the South Caroliniana Library and the Thomas Cooper Map Repository.

The archaeological survey was conducted on March 29, 2000 by Dr. Michael Trinkley and Mr. Tom Covington. The architectural survey of the corridor, designed to determine if there were any historic sites in the APE, was also conducted on March 29. These investigations required a total of 9 person hours.

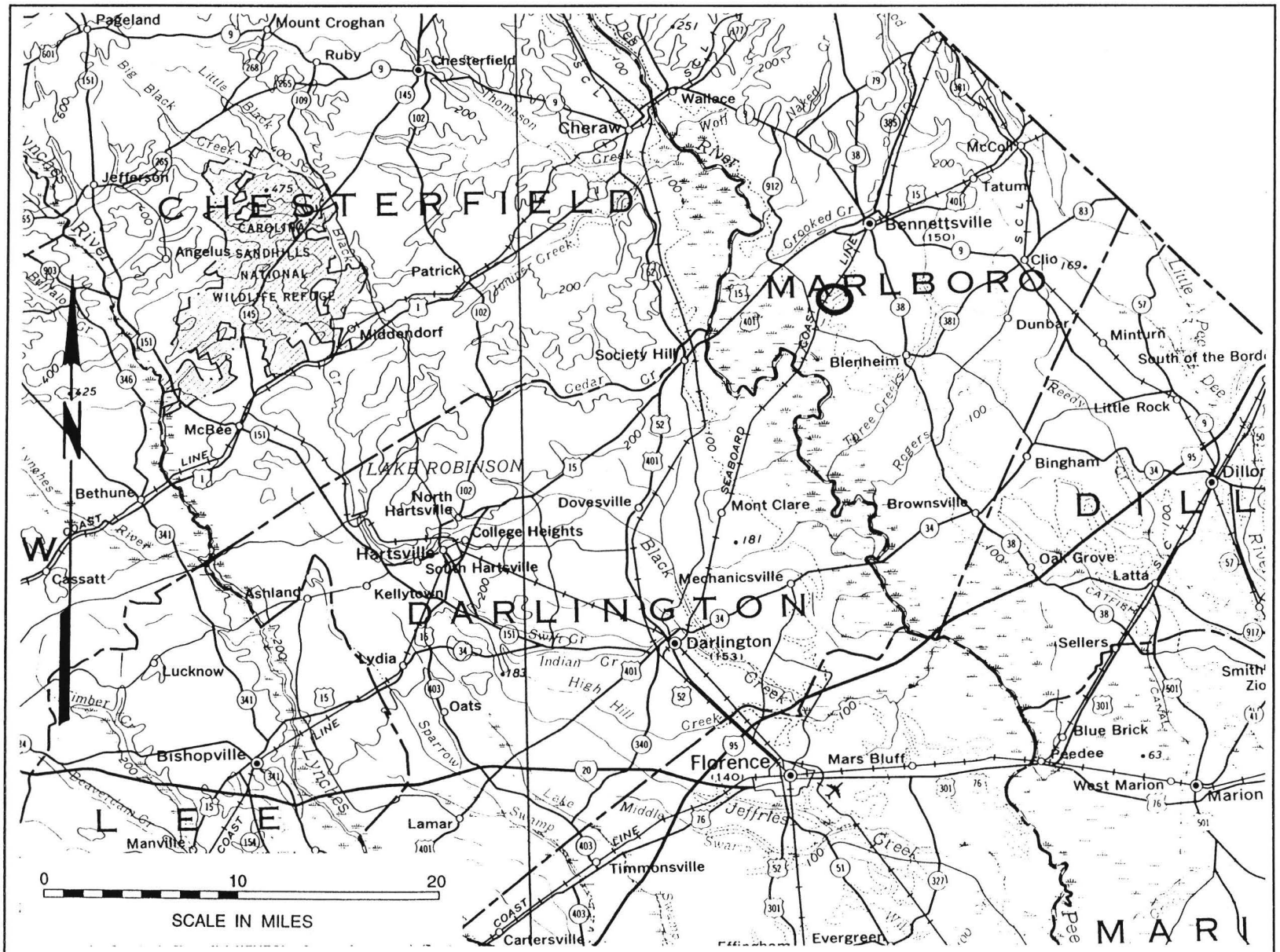

Figure 1. Location of project corridor in Marlboro County, South Carolina (base map is USGS South Carolina 1:500,000).

NATURAL SETTING

Physiography and Geology

The survey tract is situated in the Upper Coastal Plain, south of the Fall Line and the Sand Hills found in the northern corner of the County. Elevations in the Upper Coastal Plain range from 100 to 270 feet above mean sea level, with the topography being gently rolling. As Kovacik and Winberry (1987:20) observe, it can be very difficult to distinguish the Upper Coastal Plain from that of the Sand Hills or even the lower Piedmont. You find the flatter, and almost featureless, Coastal Plain topography further to the southeast, south of the Citronelle Escarpment (Orangeburg Scarp).

Figure 2. View of corridor in pines, looking southeast.

Marlboro County is drained by the Great Pee Dee River. Originating in North Carolina with the confluence of the Yadkin and Uwharrie rivers near Badin, North Carolina, the Pee Dee crosses the Fall Line in northern Marlboro County and begins its slow movement through a wide, swampy flood plain to the Atlantic Ocean. A minor tributary, Muddy Creek originates just south of Bennettsville and flows south and west to the Pee Dee, entering about 3.5 miles south-southwest of the survey tract. Mills (1972 [1826]:632) lists Muddy Creek as one of the more important creeks in the district and, in the early nineteenth century, there was a mill to the south of the survey area.

Mills also observed that the county was dominated by the Pee Dee which, "by its meanders washes the district for sixty miles" (Mills 1972 [1826]: 632). The river was navigable for almost its entire distance through Marlboro county and much of the bottomland was cultivated. The smaller drainages, such as Muddy Creek, "furnish margins of excellent soil; but little of this is yet brought into cultivation" (Mills 1972 [1826]:630).

Metamorphic and volcanic rocks of the Carolina Slate Belt outcrop north of the survey area in Anson County, North Carolina and west along the fall line in southeastern Lancaster, northern Chesterfield, and Kershaw counties in South Carolina. Mills referred to these areas as the "granite, or primitive formation" (Mills 1972 [1826]:629). The rest of the district, including the survey area, was part of the "alluvial region" where the "light and sandy" soils were underlaid

by a "clay bottom" (Mills 1972 [1826]:630). Today we recognize the complex geology of the Upper Coastal Plain where there are bedded sands overlaying kaolinitic clays and clayey, quartzose sands (Murphy 1995:93).

Figure 3. Borrow pits with standing water north of the survey area.

Soils

The survey area is situated just beyond the level floodplains of the Pee Dee, in an area characterized by the Norfolk-Rustin-Marlboro soil association — soils which in general consist of sandy upper horizons on top of yellowish-brown or yellowish-red subsoils with a fair quantity of clay.

The survey area consists entirely of Eustis Series soils (Craft 1965: Map 25). These soils are found in nearly level or sloping area and are classified as excessively drained. They are formed in thick beds of unconsolidated sand, often resting on sand clays. A typical profile reveals about a foot of dark brown (7.5YR3/3) to yellowish brown (10YR5/4) sand overlying an additional foot of yellowish red (5YR3/8) sand or sandy clay.

Ward has noted that "the most striking feature of these soils is their infertility and general unsuitability for agricultural use (Ward 1978:10). In 1934 the Land Policy Section of the Department of Agriculture was authorized to purchase land from Sandhill farmers as part of a voluntary resettlement program. Mitchell observed that "most persons are appreciative of a chance to dispose of their land, which for the most part is unfit for farming purposes, and to purchase and move to better lands elsewhere" (Mitchell 1937:3).

Even in the early nineteenth century, Mills observed that the agricultural lands were those adjacent to the rivers and in the swamps, while the sandy uplands were much less productive:

> The streams which intersect the district in every direction, furnish margins of excellent soil; but little of this is yet brought into cultivation. The river lands are cultivated even to the very edge of the water. . . . [The low grounds] constitute the wealth of the district . . . (Mills 1972 [1826] :630).

Floristics

In the early nineteenth century Mills comments that the river lands — especially those adjacent to the Great Pee Dee — were dominated by "the finest timber trees, composed of the cypress, sycamore, cotton-tree, the various kinds of oak, sweet gum, hickory, chestnut, poplar, bay, and a number of others" (Mills 1972 [1826]:633). In contrast, the uplands were dominated by pines. This situation is largely unchanged today. On the bluffs overlooking the

rivers there is a pine-hardwood community dominated by loblolly pine, hickory, and various oaks. On the lower slopes the vegetation is dominated by species tolerant of the wetter conditions, such as white oak, sweet gum, willow oak, and black gum. In the river floodplains there are sweet gum, laurel oak, water hickory, and tupelo (Kovacik and Winberry 1987:45).

The survey area, however, has been extensively altered by modern land-use activities. Up to the 1980s the area was under cultivation, with only narrow strips of vegetation along drainageways and field edges. Today the fields are out of cultivation and have been replaced by planted pines (Figure 2). To the north there are borrow areas which today hold water (Figure 3).

Climate

Mills observed that the initial large planters settled on the rivers and swamps and regarded the small interior sand farmers as "a kind of curiosity, and half savage" (Mills 1972 [1826]:634). Eventually they realized that it was those interior sandy areas with good drainage that reduced the risk of malaria and he reported that "the owners and overseers now fly to these very sand hills, as the sickly months approach."

This portion of South Carolina is dominated by the movement of systems across the country, but there are relatively few complete exchanges of air masses in the summer. This results in few breaks in the midsummer heat, with temperatures ranging from the high 80s to the mid-90s. In contrast, winters are mild and relatively short. There are 46 inches of annual precipitation, with over 22 inches falling in the growing season (Craft 1965).

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND

Previous Research

Marlboro is not a particularly well studied part of the South Carolina. There are, for example, only 14 reports for the county listed by Derting et al. (1991). Of these, nearly two-thirds (n=9) are the result of relatively small, or at least constrained, surveys associated with compliance projects. The remaining five studies include a county-wide historic preservation plan (of virtually no use archaeologically), two studies on the coffin hardware of the Clio General Store in northern Marlboro County, and two studies of the Cheraw or Pee Dee Indians. None of these studies are specific to the area currently being examined.

Prehistoric Overview

The Paleo-Indian period, lasting from 12,000 to 8,000 B.C., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notched projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points; side scrapers; end scrapers; and drills (Coe 1964; Michie 1977). The Paleo-Indian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Points usually associated with this period include the Clovis and several variants, Suwannee, Simpson, and Dalton (Goodyear et al. 1989:36-38).

At least four Paleo-Indian points have been found in the Marlboro area, clustered along the Pee Dee River (Goodyear et al. 1989:33). This pattern of artifacts found along major river drainages has been interpreted by Michie to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124).

Unfortunately, little is known about Paleo-Indian subsistence strategies, settlement systems, or social organization. Generally, archaeologists agree that the Paleo-Indian groups were at a band level of society, were nomadic, and were both hunters and foragers. While population density, based on the isolated finds, is thought to have been low, Walthall suggests that toward the end of the period, "there was an increase in population density and in territoriality and that a number of new resource areas were beginning to be exploited" (Walthall 1980:30).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 1000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleo-Indian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate and an increase in the diversity of material culture. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with little modification to the Marlboro County area. Archaic period assemblages, characterized by corner-notched, side-notched, and broad stemmed projectile points, are common in the vicinity, although they rarely are found in good, well-preserved contexts.

The Woodland period begins, by definition, with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast, about 1000 B.C. in the Upper Coastal Plain, and much later in the Carolina Piedmont, perhaps 500 B.C. It should be noted that many researchers call the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. the Late Archaic because of a perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle in spite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of terminology, the period from 2000 to 500 B.C. was a period of tremendous change.

The subsistence economy during this early period was based primarily on deer hunting and fishing, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, reptiles, and shellfish. Various calculations of the probable yield of deer, fish, and other food sources identified from some coastal sites indicate that sedentary life was not only possible, but probable. Further inland it seems likely that many Native American groups continued the previous established patterns of band mobility. These frequent moves would allow the groups to take advantage of various seasonal resources, such as shad and sturgeon in the spring, nut masts in the fall, and turkeys during the winter.

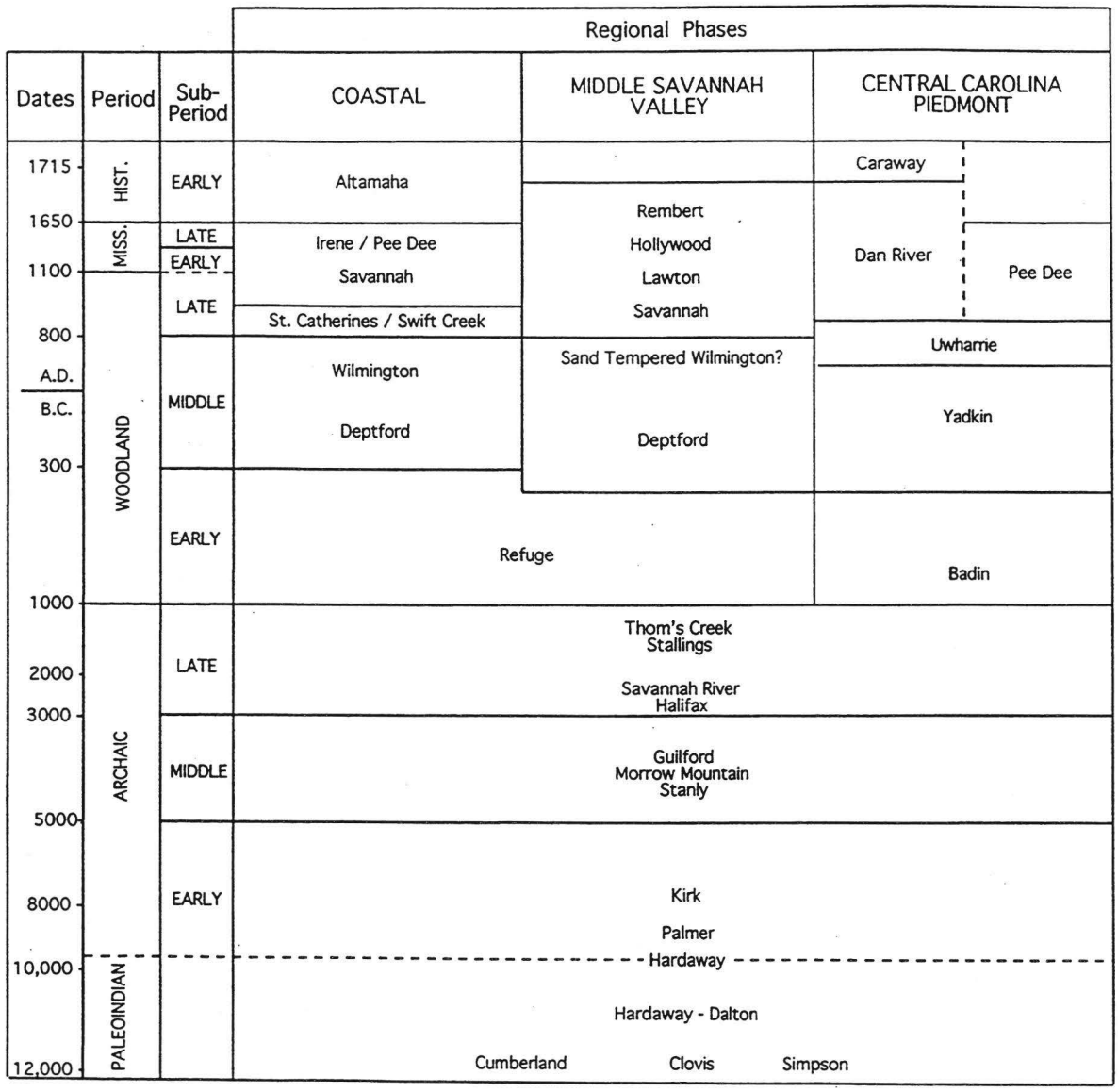

Figure 4. Generalized cultural periods for South Carolina.

The South Appalachian Mississippian period, from about A.D. 1100 to A.D. 1640 is the most elaborate level of culture attained by the native inhabitants and is followed by cultural disintegration brought about largely by European disease. The period is characterized by complicated stamped pottery, complex social organization, agriculture, and the construction of temple mounds and ceremonial centers. The earliest coastal phases are named the Savannah and Irene (known as Pee Dee further inland) (A.D. 1200 to 1550).

The history of the numerous small coastal Indian tribes after contact is poorly known. As Mooney noted, the coastal tribes,

> were of but small importance politically; no sustained mission work was ever attempted among them, and there were but few literary men to take an interest in them. War, pestilence, whiskey and systematic slave hunts had nearly exterminated the aboriginal occupants of the Carolinas before anybody had thought them of sufficient importance to ask who they were, how they lived, or what were their beliefs and opinions (Mooney 1894:6).

The Pedee are first mentioned in 1711 when they formed a small part of Colonel John Barnwell's force against the Tuscarora in North Carolina (Milling 1969:118). Mooney (1894:76-77) notes that their village, in 1715, was situated on the east bank of the Pee Dee, probably in the vicinity of Marion County. A military map dating from 1715 shows the Pedees to be about 38 miles down river from the "Saraus" (Saras) and about 80 miles up river from the Atlantic Ocean. This would place the Pedee very close to their location shown by DeBrahm on his 1757 map.

By 1716 the Pedees were in a region called Saukey (thought by Swanton to be what is today Socatee) which was mentioned as a possible trading post or "factory" site (McDowell 1955:80). Several months later, however, the Indian Trade Commissioners abandoned Suakey in favor of Uauenee (or Great Bluff, today known as Yauhannah). It was observed that:

> 1st, its Vicinity to our English Plantations, will afford us News from thence, at all Times, by Land, within three or four Days, at most; whereas Saukey (the appointed Place) is much more remote; 2ndly, that Saukey being only covered by the Pedea's, is exposed to the Insults of the Charraws; 3rdly, that (besides the Interest it will be to us, in obliging the Wackamaws, a People of greater Consequence then the Pedeas, by such a Settlement), Uauenee being contiguous to the Wackamaws, the most populous of those two Nations; so on the other Hand, 'tis the best seated for a general Consourse and frequent (McDowell 1944:111).

This passage, while ambiguous, suggests that Saukey was situated further north, perhaps along the Pee Dee River. But it is unlikely that it was at Socatee as suggested by Swanton.

During the early eighteenth century there was constant warfare between the southern and northern Indian groups, with a tremendous loss of life. An account in the British Public Records Office states:

> Before the end of the said year [1716] we recovered the Charokees and Northward Indians after several Slaughters and Blood Sheddings, which has lessened their numbers and utterly Extirpating some little tribes as the Congarees, Santees, Seawees, Pedees, Waxhaws and some Corsaboys, so that by Warr, Pestilence and Civill Warr amongst themselves, the Charokes may be computed reduced to about 10,000 souls & the Northern Indians to about 2500 Souls (quoted in Mills 1972 [1826]:223-224).

While it is possible that the Pedee suffered a severe reduction in population, it is clear from the historic accounts that some of their number survived. In February 1717 a Pedee, Tom West, came to Charleston to arrange a peace between the English and the Charraw (McDowell 1955:160, 176). Apparently the peace was not formed, or at least was short lived (McDowell 1955:209). Late in 1717 the Pedee appealed to the English not to move the trading post from Uauenee to the Black River (McDowell 1955:208).

At least as early as the 1740s some of the Pedee had joined with the Catawba in an uneasy confederation (Mooney 1894:77), while the remaining Pedee were classified as "Settlement Indians," living among the English (McDowell 1958:85, 166). Mooney reports that the Settlement Pedee joined in a variety of Anglo activities, even keeping black slaves (Mooney 1894:77). In 1752 the Catawba wrote Governor James Glen:

> There are a great many Pedee Indians living in the Settlements that we want to come and settle amongst us. We desire you to send for them and advise them to this, and give them this String of Wampum in Token that we want them to settle here, and will always live like Brothers with them. The Northern Indians want them all to settle with us, for as they are now at Peace they may be hunting in the Woods or straggling about killed by some of them except they join us and make but one Nation, which will be a great Addition of Strength to us (McDowell 1958:362).

While many of the remaining Pedee apparently joined the Catawba, it did not provide total protection. As late as 1753 the Northern Indians took at least one Pedee Indian slave during a "visit" to the Catawba area (McDowell 1958:388). In 1755 a Settlement Pedee was killed by the Notchee and Cherokee (Mooney 1894:77, 84).

De Brahm's "Map of South Carolina and a Part of Georgia," dated 1757 shows the "Peadea Indian Old Town" situated almost immediately east of the survey tract. By the time of Mouzon's "An Accurate Map of North and South Carolina" in 1775 no further evidence of the Pedee was shown.

The last mention of the Pedee comes from Ramsay's History of South Carolina:

> Persons now living remember that there were about thirty Indians, a remnant of the Pedee and Cape Fear tribes that lived in the Parishes of St. Stephens and St. Johns. King John was their chief. There was another man among the same tribe who was called Prince. Governor Lyttelton give him a Commission of Captain General and Commander-in-Chief of the two tribes, which superseded Johnny. The latter took umbrage at the promotion of the former and attempted to kill him. There were some shots exchanged, but no mischief was done. All this remnant of these ancient tribes are now extinct except for one woman of a half-breed (Ramsay 1808:Appendix II).

Swanton was able to determine little more than this about the Pedee, observing that no words survived. In spite of this, he attributed the Pedee to the Siouan linguistic stock, probably on the basis of their frequent identification with other, supposedly Siouan, groups.

No archaeological sites attributable to the Pedee have been identified and Swanton observed, "no village names are known apart from the tribal name, which was sometimes applied to specific settlements" (Swanton 1952:97). The presumed protohistoric remains in this region are essentially identical (at least in a gross sense) to those found elsewhere. They include small, triangular projectile points, often crudely made; complicated stamped pottery with motifs ranging from finely applied to crudely stamped; and diminutive ground stone celts. Protohistoric to historic Pedee

villages, when found, are likely to be evidenced by a significant quantity of trade goods, including glass beads, copper bangles, guns or gun parts, tobacco pipes, iron hatchets and knives, and similar items.

At the present, however, there is virtually nothing known of the Pedee Indians and their villages remain lost. The Pedee settlement which should be most easily identified based on period maps has received no professional attention, although there is some evidence that it has been looted by relic hunters.

Historic Synopsis

The early history of Marlboro was succinctly presented by Mills:

> Soon after Braddock's defeat [reference to General Edward Braddock and his disastrous defeat in the Ohio Valley at the hands of the French] the frontier inhabitants of Virginia and Pennsylvania began to move southwardly; and this section of the state was settled by a few of them. The progress of population was slow previous to the Indian treaty, in 1755; after which it began to increase; but received several checks, until the close of the revolutionary war, when a considerable accession took place (Mills 1972 [1826]:629).

Much of this early settlement occurred in the area called Welsh Neck or Tract. Not strictly a township, a large portion, from Crooked Creek to Hunt's Bluff, had been granted in small parcels by 1746 to such individuals as Daniel Lewis, Samuel Wilds, and Daniel James. These, and other Welch, came largely from Pennsylvania, attracted by the possibly of plants such crops as hemp. flax, wheat, and barley (Wallace 1951:155).

McColl remarked that the first court house, build about 1787, was located near the Pee Dee River:

> very near the road to Gardner's Bluff, not very far from the river and very close to the present cross roads leading from Bennettsville to Gardner's Bluff and from Evans' or Matheson's Mill to Cheraw (McColl n.d.:78).

Mills also notes that the court house was built close to the banks of Crooked Creek and remarked that:

> there was built there three or four stores, and five or six dwelling houses, but no tavern. The village was called Winfieldsville (Mills 1972 [1826]:631).

Mills also observed that the earliest settlements were consistently located along the Pee Dee River, an area thought, at the time, to be healthy. In fact, "the inhabitant of the sandy interior was deemed, upon the river, a kind of curiosity, and half savage" (Mills 1972 [1826]:634). As the years passed, however, the planters began moving inland, into the sand hills, to get away from the swamps and the associated fevers and miasmas. Consequently, the court house was moved to its current location in Bennettsville in 1818. A brick court house and jail were erected in 1821 (rebuilt in 1852, 1885, and 1952). Bennettsville, named for Governor Thomas Bennett (1820-1822), remained a sleepy, small town until after the Civil War.

One author remarked that:

> Prior to the war the citizens of the sand hill section did but little in an agricultural way, and their main industry was the raising of cattle and hogs, which roamed at large through the extensive forests (Gibson 1902:5).

Where agriculture was practiced, it is clear from Mills that it was of the most ruthless kind:

> the same ruinous system of cultivation practiced in other places is prevalent here. Once piece of land after another is exhausted, and abandoned; nothing like farming; no husbandry of the natural advantages

> of the soil; forest after forest is felled, and reduced to ashes, without regard to the consequences of such waste (Mills 1972 [1826]:637).

Settlement in the project area seems to be focused on the Marlborough Road (in part made up of S-57 today) (see Figure 5). There is almost no settlement shown further inland, in the survey area.

Prior to the Civil War many areas of Marlboro District became well known for their extensive mills, including those of General Thomas, Major Robinson, and Major Pledger (Mills 1972 [1826]:632). About five miles north of Bennettsville Mr. Meekins Townsend built a water powered cotton mill on Crooked creek. Gibson notes that, "a beautiful factory village occupied the high sandy level ridge east of the mill," and that the mill burned shortly before the Civil War (Gibson 1902:16).

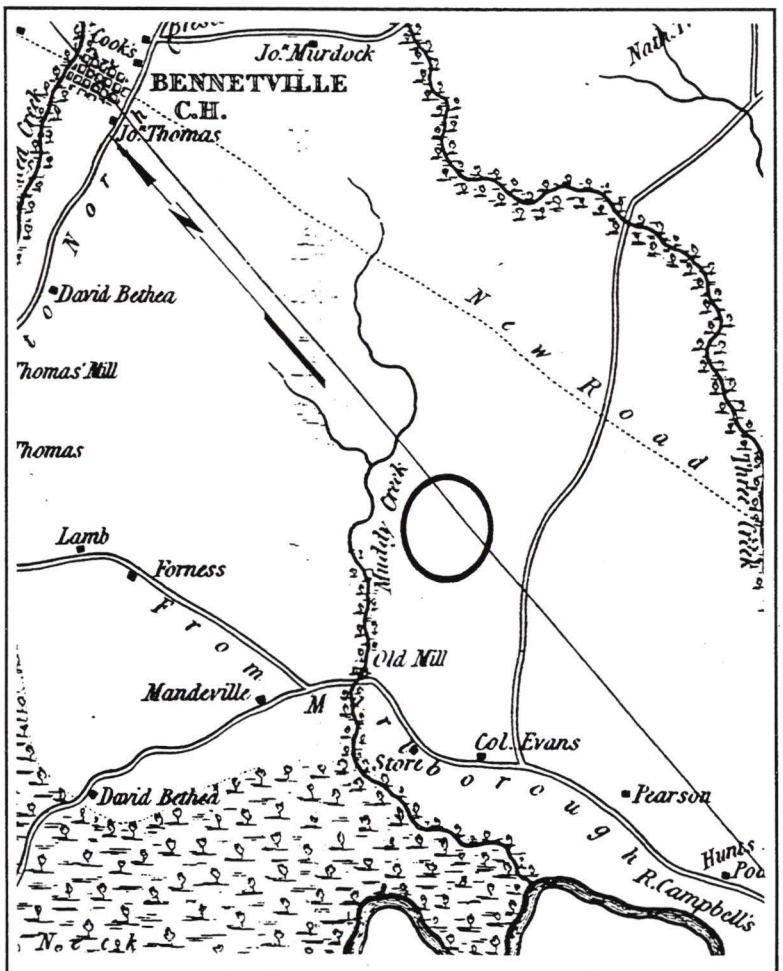

Figure 5. Portion of Mills' *Atlas* showing the study area ca. 1826.

In 1850, on the verge of the Civil War, Marlboro County was about evenly divided between whites and African American slaves (5033 to 5600). With 621 farms, only six counties had a smaller agricultural base. In spite of this, Marlboro ranked 16th in cotton production, with 9501 bales. Other significant crops included Indian corn and wheat (DeBow 1854:304-305).

The Civil War was not particularly kind to Marlboro. Sherman's army passed through the county on its way from Columbia, South Carolina to Fayetteville, North Carolina. Nearly all the ginneries, some of the mills, and many of the residences were destroyed. Sherman and Howard both had their camps along Crooked Creek, in the vicinity of Goodwin's Upper and Lower Mills (north of the project area).

Like elsewhere in South Carolina the economy of Marlboro County was essentially destroyed. Renting and wage labor were the most common forms of black farm labor as late as 1884, although there were about 100 farms comprising 3000 acres owned by blacks (compared to about 6000 acres in 200 farms owned by whites) (Anonymous 1884). Significantly, 200 gins, 44 lumber mills, and 16 flour or grist mills were in operation only 20 years after the Civil War.

Col. C.S. McColl established a thriving mercantile business in the 1870s and eventually owned at least nine plantations, including Appin, Dundee, Steward, Islay, Pipkin, Cook, Ervin, Spears, and Cotton Hill. Described as a "100 plow" farm, as late as 1901 he planted 1600 acres in cotton, 600 acres in corn, and 300 acres in wheat and oats. He produced over 1000 bales of cotton a year

and 1100 pounds of cotton seed per acre. Gibson remarks:

> his mill . . . is only 2½ miles west of town, on Crooked Creek, very fine water power, splendid ginnery and corn mill. The pond is well stocked with fish and the numerous ducks afford exhilarating and enjoyable sport (Gibson 1902:21).

McColl's amalgamation of plantations, however, was unusual and most agriculture was conducted by "two, three, or four plows," where the farms are small and largely worked only their owner (Gibson 1902:7).

The number of Marlboro farms operated by owners declined from 818 in 1900 to 697 in 1910 and 454 by 1930, while those operated by tenants increased from 1789 in 1900 to 2974 in 1930. Through this period the number of acres of cotton remained steady between 86,000 and 82,000 acres, although the yields fell dramatically from over 74,000 bales to less than 34,000 bales (Thirteenth Census of the United States: 1910 and Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930).

The 1937 General Highway and Transportation map (Figure 6) reveals one farm complex with at least three tenant houses in the general survey area. These apparently have been removed, perhaps when the land was converted from agriculture to pines and none were identified in the architectural survey.

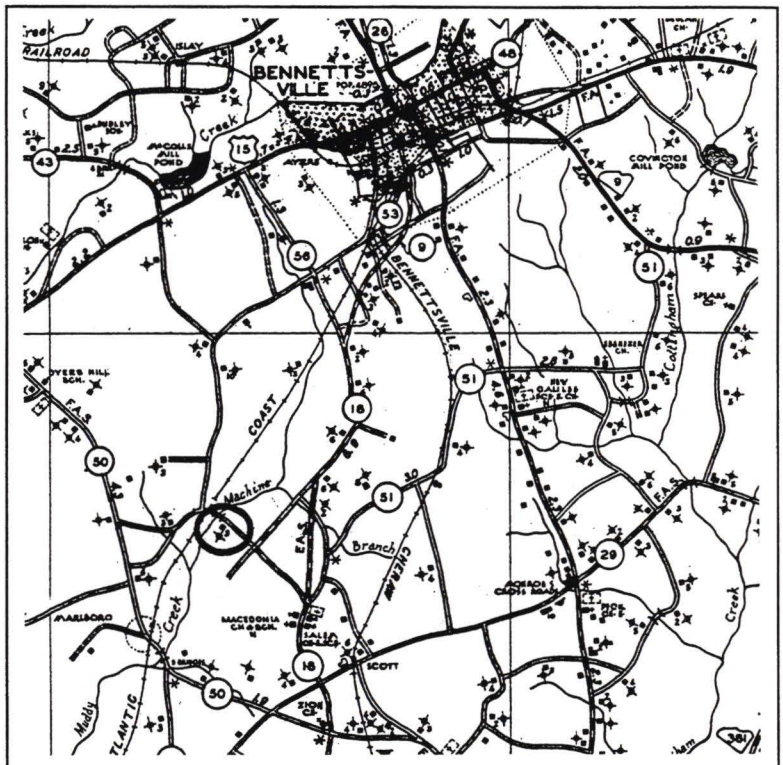

Figure 6. Portion of the 1937 *General Highway and Transportation Map* showing the study area.

RESEARCH METHODS AND FINDINGS

Introduction

As previously indicated, the primary goals of this survey are to identify, record, and assess the significance of archaeological sites within the proposed substation footprint. No major analytical hypotheses were created prior to the field work and data analysis. This research design proposed for this study is fundamentally explorative and explicative.

Field Survey

The survey area was wooded, but was clearly marked in the field with survey stakes and a cut line. In addition, the corridor had been surveyed and we were provided with a plan sheet of the proposed line.

The 0.5 mile corridor extends from an existing transmission line roughly paralleling the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad southeastwardly adjacent to Stoneaway Road (S-455) to a new substation, under construction at the time of this survey (Figure 7).

The survey corridor was examined using a systematic intensive survey methodology that examined the corridor for archaeological and historical resources. An archaeological survey was conducted using shovel tests placed at 100 foot intervals on the center-line of the corridor (which was 75 feet in width). A total of 22 shovel tests were excavated.

All shovel tests were approximately one-foot square and were excavated to subsoil, usually about 1.5 feet below the surface. All soils were screened through ¼-inch mesh and soil profiles were recorded as appropriate, using Munsell soil colors. All shovel tests were backfilled at the completion of the work.

Results of the Archaeological Survey

The investigation revealed that the proposed property slopes up to the southeast. The shovel tests confirmed that the area had been under cultivation, revealing a consist plowzone about 0.5 to 0.8 foot in depth and consisting of a brown (7.5YR5/4) sand. Below this was a reddish brown (5YR5/4) to yellowish red (5YR5/8) sand subsoil. In a few areas (on the slope) there appears to have been sufficient erosion to completely remove the upper brown soil layer, exposing the subsoil.

All of the shovel tests were negative and no archaeological deposits were encountered in the survey corridor.

Results of the Architectural Survey

The architectural survey consisted of driving the accessible roads within 0.25 mile of the corridor, looking for any standing structures which were clearly 50 years or older. None were identified.

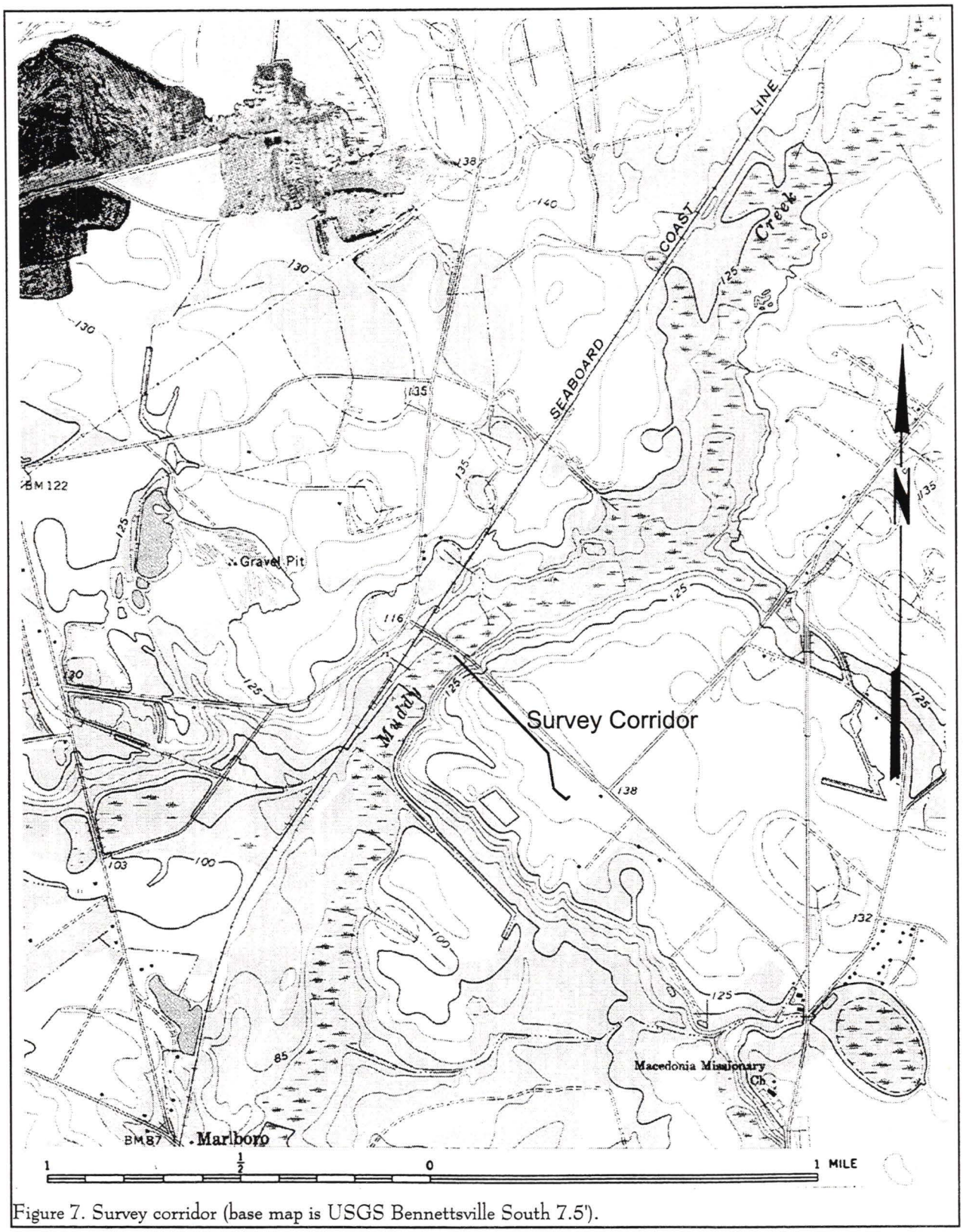

Figure 7. Survey corridor (base map is USGS Bennettsville South 7.5').

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study involved the examination of a 0.5 mile corridor situated in south central Marlboro County, South Carolina. The corridor, 75 feet in width, is proposed for the construction of an electrical transmission line, connecting the existing Darlington to Bennettsville 69kV line to a new substation, under construction at the terminus of the survey corridor. This report, conducted for Central Electric Power Cooperative, provides the results of that investigation and is intended to assist that organization comply with their historic preservation responsibilities.

While the survey area was previously under cultivation, it and much of the surrounding area has been placed in planted pines. The shovel tests revealed that some portions of the corridor, typically on the steeper slopes, exhibited extensive erosion — perhaps associated with either agriculture or the preparation of the site for pines. The archaeological survey included close interval shovel testing, which revealed no evidence of cultural remains on the study corridor.

The ridge on which the corridor has been placed is consistent with other areas where Archaic Period sites may be found. It's close proximity to the swamp edge also suggests that it might be a suitable site for a small Woodland camp. While the absence of prehistoric materials may be associated with the erosion documented in some areas, it seems more likely that our failure to recover Native American materials is associated with the very limited area surveyed.

Similarly, the failure to identify historic remains is again most likely the result of the very short and narrow survey corridor. There should be, nearby, evidence of the farm complex and tenants houses shown on the 1937 highway map. Earlier historic occupation seems unlikely since this was not a historic roadway.

No standing architectural sites 50 years or older were identified during the survey. It is likely that they were removed prior to converting the land into timber production. Given the timber planted in the area, it is unlikely that the proposed line will be visible beyond the 0.25 mile APE.

It is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the corridor during construction activities. As always, the utility's contractors should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office, or Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No further land altering activities should take place in the vicinity of these discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

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